The Mezzanine Gallery to Exhibit "The Pandemic Paintings" by Theresa Walton

On view from June 12 — July 24, 2020 Visit the Gallery in-person or view it online

Wilmington, Del. (June 10, 2020) — The Pandemic Paintings, an exhibition of watercolor portraits of health care workers and scenes that represent hope to them by Theresa (Terre) Walton, will be on view in the Mezzanine Gallery from June 12-July 24, 2020. For those unable to visit in-person, an online gallery will be available on our main website on June 12. Walton, a retired art educator with over 25 years of experience, paints in both watercolors and acrylics and has exhibited in various venues in the Newark and Wilmington area.

The Pandemic Paintings started with Walton's commitment to paint every day during the quarantine, and a spontaneous watercolor painted from a photo of her son's fiancé in a mask before work. After posting the watercolor on Facebook, Walton received an avalanche of requests from family and friends to paint their loved ones working in health care. For over a week she painted up to four portraits a day to keep up with the demand. The result is a collection of over 35 portraits of people "connected to her by five degrees of separation."

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Self-portrait, 2020, watercolor, 5" x 7"

Moving on from the portraits, hope became the theme of the

next phase of the quarantine watercolors. Walton requested from that same sphere of friends to send her a photo of something "that represents hope or a photo of what you hope to do when this whole thing is over." Walton received many images of nature (walks, wildlife, and gardens) and water.

Most recently she is painting a series of loose, spontaneous images of her own choosing. Walton said, "I am still getting portrait requests and still fulfilling those requests, but primarily have moved on to the loose, relaxed work of the final phase, and hope."

Images from Health Workers/ Five Degrees of Separation, 2020, watercolor, all images 5" x 7"

The <u>Mezzanine Gallery</u> is open to the public weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and is located in the Carvel State Office Building, 820 N. French Street, Wilmington. **Visitors must wear face coverings and maintain 6 feet distance from other individuals not in their household.**

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